



## News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &  
Thunder Basin National Grassland  
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbf>

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### **Tie City Public Meetings Announced for Jan. 19-20**

**(LARAMIE, Wyo.) Jan. 6, 2011** – The U.S. Forest Service has announced the dates and times for two public meetings regarding proposed dog regulations at the Happy Jack/Tie City trails.

A meeting will be held in Cheyenne on Wed., Jan. 19, from 6-8 p.m. at the Kiwanis Community House in Lions Park. Then, on Thurs., Jan. 20, a similar public meeting will take place in Laramie from 6-8 p.m. at the Albany County Fairgrounds.

The Forest Service is working towards a solution that reduces conflicts between a variety of users at the popular area, one of which is regarding a large number of dogs on the trails. The upcoming meetings will provide land managers with additional public input and data which will be used to determine future management of the area.

“After our initial proposal last fall, the public has presented us with multiple issues and concerns as well as some interesting potential solutions,” Laramie District Ranger Larry Sandoval said. “With these meetings we hope to validate what we heard. Ultimately we want to make a well-informed decision that most recreationists who use this very popular area can live with.”

The meetings will include displays of ideas and proposed solutions to date, as well as provide opportunities for members of the local community to speak with Forest Service staff members and give additional comments. Sandoval will give a brief presentation with facts on Forest Service management of the area and some background information.

The public events come on the heels of a Forest Service proposal in Oct. of 2010 which could limit dogs on the Happy Jack/Tie City trails during the winter season. The proposal stated that dogs would be allowed on all ski trails Sundays through Wednesdays only. Dogs would not be allowed on trails Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, as well as during scheduled race events.

The Forest Service then provided a written comment period which ended on Friday, Nov. 26.

The Tie City parking area and trails on Pole Mountain in the Medicine Bow National Forest is one of the most highly used recreation spots in the region during winter months. Located just off of Highway 210, the area features numerous trails that are popular with a wide variety of users.

Both experienced and inexperienced cross-country skiers, along with snowshoe enthusiasts, runners and hikers use the trails regularly.

For additional information on recreational use of the Pole Mountain area, please contact the Laramie Ranger District office at 307-745-2300 or visit <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>.

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